

minds, and in their way, that invisible, undefinable, unavoidable, ill-advisable—(Laughter)—colourless, bodiless, and almost voiceless ghost of him—(Great laughter)—with which other ecclesiastical courts were perpetually haunted. (Laughter and applause.)

THE DEPUTATION FROM SPAIN.

The Rev. Mr. Jameson, the agent of the National Bible Society, said that in Spain there was only one organisation representing Presbyterian Protestants in there; and, although they had not given themselves the name yet, he trusted to show them that they were heart and soul Presbyterian. Mr. Jameson then entered into an account of the operations in Spain. The Confession which had been drawn up was not modelled on the Westminster Confession, but of the Shorter Catechism, and it was dear to every Scottish heart by the old familiar sentences of the Catechism which cropped up in it. The code of discipline was also essentially Presbyterian. There were in all about fifty congregations in Spain; and an Assembly was held in Seville of representatives of the Reformed Church, who had all seen eye to eye. They were ready to give up each whatever prevented them uniting as a Church of Christ, and they agreed to hold an Assembly in Madrid next November, at which a National Confession for the Reformed Church of Spain was to be drawn up. As a representative of the National Bible Society of Scotland, he believed that that society was in a commanding position for doing good; and if its funds were equal to the opportunity, he believed he could do more by his colporteurs to evangelise Spain than any amount of churches. His colporteurs were not mere booksellers, but were plain, good, working men. One of them who had returned to the village in Estremadura, whence he came, was denounced by the priest from the altar, who announced that he would deny the sacraments to any one who took his books. The result was that the villagers went to the posada where the colporteur dwelt, and bought all his books; and when the priest entered into a discussion with him, his own parishioners were so disgusted with his bad handling of the subject, that they requested him, if he could not do better,

to hold his tongue. (Laughter.) He had had several colporteurs in training for three months, and this man who beat the priest in argument was one of them; but more was needed than the mere giving of the Bible, and he appealed to the Church of Scotland for sympathy and support to enable the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Spain to be a power in the land.

Dr. Pirie, in moving the thanks of the Assembly to the deputation, said that things were as they should be in the Church of Scotland, having with them the representatives of the whole Presbyterian world. With regard to what had been said as to the propriety of union he could speak for himself, and, he believed, for that Assembly, when he said that had the gentleman who spoke so feelingly brought over some of his friends from the other side of the street, they would have had no cause to regret the reception they would have met with. (Loud and renewed applause.) That expression of feeling which they had now given confirmed him in saying that they wished their brethren of the Free Church Godspeed in their great work, and they were prepared and most willing and most anxious to unite with them in every good work. (Applause.) He thoroughly agreed with the gentlemen who had spoken regarding the position of the Church of Scotland, for he believed that on the whole that Church was one of the most free and independent in the world. (Applause.) They were afflicted by no interference of the civil courts; on the contrary, they were more and more in their decisions showing that they were positively determined, if they could, to avoid coming in contact with the Church in any shape whatever. (Applause.) With regard to what had been said as to the position of the Presbyterian Church on the other side of the Atlantic, they regarded the Americans as dear brothers—as a nation of which we were proud—and he rejoiced that they were now rising to be one of the most powerful, if not the most powerful, nations in the world. The United States, he believed, were peculiarly suited to the Presbyterian form of Church government, and he believed that Presbyterianism would grow with the growth of the country. He begged the deputation to